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Entry Nr. 003 Anchico

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Aaron Spencer Fogleman and Robert Hanserd (eds.), *Five Hundred African Voices: A Catalog of Published Accounts by Africans Enslaved in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1586-1936* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 2022).

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Comments: None

Text of Account:

Original Spanish –

p. 68:

“[Declaración de Sebastián Anchico, bozal de veinte y dos años de edad, siervo en el palenque por dos años]

En la ciudad de Cartagena en 23 días del mes de enero de 1634, el dicho señor teniente y auditor general mando parecer a uno de los negros cimarrones que trujeron. que pareció ser medio bozal, por lo cual se le tomo su declaración y confesión por

p. 70:

Andrés Angola negro ladino, esclavo de los padres de la Compañía de Jesús, a quien fue nombrado por interprete, por ser ladino y entender la lengua de anchicos. Y debajo de juramento prometió de decir y declarar con verdad lo que respondiére el dicho negro. Y se le hicieron las preguntas siguientes:

Preguntado como se llama y de que casta es y quien es su amo, y el intérprete dijo que se dice llamar Sebastián, de nación anchico, y ser esclavo de doña María de Vitoria, vecina desta ciudad de Cartagena.

Preguntado quanto tiempo ha que se huyó y con quién y adonde y en que palenque y compañía ha estado, y el intérprete dijo que responde el dicho negro anchico que, yendo por lina por el camino grande, dieron con el tres negros cimarrones- Manuel Quisama, Simón Angola, y Sebastián Congo- y lo cogieron y [lo] amarraron el mismo día que cogieron a Domingo Anchico. Y que va para dos años que lo cogieron. Y los llevaron a la estancia de Saragosilla y allí estuvieron dos días. Y de noche caminaban hasta que llegaron a [el distrito de] María. Y siempre fueron por el monte. Y los llevaron al palenque de Polín adonde estaba Manuel Malemba y un negro blanco que se llama Miguel. Y de allí a pocos días fue Juan Criollo de la Margarita y Juan Angola de Andrés Ortiz, a quien[es] llevaron Sebastián [Congo] capitán y Manuel Quisama. Y también había cuatro negros que halló cuando fue al palenque.

Y allí se estaban de miedo de los blancos, y comían plant[as] y yucas que tenían, y hicochas y carne de monte, y no salían a hacer mal a nadie. Y estándose allí quiero[s] fue la gente del Palenque del Limón. Los cogieron durmiendo para llevarlos a su palenque. Y porque no querían ir, les quitaban flechas, y los hirieron, y [los] amarraron, y los llevaron al Limón para que trabajaran. Y en el mismo Palenque de Polín mataron al capitán Sebastián Congo, diciéndole la gente del Limón que para que cogía a todas las negras y ellos no las tenían, y que por envidia lo mataron. Les decían a los del Limón que como peleaban cimarrones con cimarrones. Y a todos los negros y negras que había en Polín los llevaron amarrados para que le[s] sirvieran. Y el dicho Sebastián Anchico servía a su amo Juan Angola Criollo, y pilaba, y traía agua y leña, y iba a la roza a trabajar. . . .

Y no firmo por no saber, ni supo decir su edad. Pareció por su aspecto de hasta veinte y dos años. Ante mí Francisco López Nieto.”

English translation –

p. 69:

Statement of Sebastián Anchico, Twenty-Two-Year-Old Bozal, Servant (or Slave) in the Palenque for the Past Two Years

In the city of Cartagena, on the twenty-third day of January 1634, the said señor teniente and auditor general called before him one of the black Maroons whom they had brought [to Cartagena], who appeared to be a bozal, because of which his statement and confession were taken with the assistance of Andrés Angola, a black ladino slave-

p. 71:

who belongs to the Jesuits -- who was named as interpreter because he was ladino and understood the Anchico language. And under oath he promised to tell and state truthfully what the aforementioned black man responded. And the following questions were asked of him:

Asked what his name is and to what caste he belongs and who his master is, the interpreter stated that he says his name is Sebastián, he is Anchico by birth, and is the slave of Doña María de Viloría, resident of this city of Cartagena.

Asked how long it has been since he ran away, and with whom, and where, and in what palenque and in whose company he has been, the interpreter said that the Anchico black man responded that, while he was fetching firewood along the big road, three black Maroons -- Manuel Quisima, Simón Angola, and Sebastián Congo -- came upon him and tied him up on the same day that they captured Domingo Anchico. And it has been almost two years since they caught him. And they took him to the Sarogossilla ranch and were there two days. And they walked at night until they arrived In [the district of] María. And while walking, they stayed in the forest. And [the three Maroons] took them to the palenque of Polín, where Manuel Malemba was as well as a *Bran* black man named Miguel. And a few days later Juan Criollo de la Margarita and Juan Angola -- who belongs to Andrés Ortiz -- arrived, both brought by Captain Sebastián and Manuel Quisama. And there were also four black women whom [Sebastián Anchico] encountered when he arrived at the palenque.

And they waited there out of fear of the whites, and they ate plants and cassava that they had, and turtles, and game, and they did not leave the palenque to do harm to anyone. And while they were hiding there, the people from the Palenque del Limón arrived and caught them while they were sleeping in order to take them to their Palenque. And because [those from Polín] did not want to go, [the people from Limón] took away their arrows, and wounded them, and tied them up and carried them off to Limón to make them work. In the Palenque de Polín, they killed Captain Sebastián Congo, asking him why he kept all the black women for himself and they did not have any [in Limón], and they killed him out of envy. And [the people from Polín] asked those from Limón why they were fighting, Maroon against Maroon. And they tied up black men and women that were in Polín and carried them off to work for them. And Sebastian Anchico served his master Juan Angola Criollo, and shelled corn, and carried water and firewood, and went to the fields to work

And [Sebastián Anchico] did not sign [his statement] because he did not know how to, neither did he know his age. He appeared from his looks to be about twenty-two years old. Before me, Francisco López Nieto.”

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